Revision in prices of LPG and Kerosene

116. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have increased the prices of LPG and Kerosene; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) PDS kerosene and domestic LPG are subsidized products. In addition to the Government subsidy, oil PSUs have been sharing the burden of subsidizing these products by not passing the full increase in international prices on to the domestic consumer prices of these products. Despite the steep increase in international prices, the selling price of PDS kerosene has not been increased since 1.4.2002 and the RSP (retail selling price) of domestic LPG was increased by only Rs. 20/cylinder each, effective 16.6.2004 and 5.11.2004 respectively. During April-December 2004, the estimated provisional under-recovery/subsidy on these products was as follows:

Product	Government Subsidy	Oil PSUs' under-recoveries	Total Subsidy/ under-recoveries
PDS Kerosene (Rs./litre)	0.82	8.14	8.96
Domstic LPG (Rs./Cylinder)	22.58	129.18	151.76

Recommendations of Kirit Parikh Committee

†117. PROF. R.B.S. VERMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Kirit Parikh Committee constituted by the Planning Commission has recommended to make refinery, distribution and exploration sectors independent;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.